

Appl. No.: 09/401,616
Amdt. dated February 2, 2004
Reply to Office action of September 10, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As described above, the data values of interest include the contents of registers – the source register, the destination register and the program counter. Other types of values may also be stored including values that represent certain properties of the system. A mechanism allows a user to choose between an open ended set of values that represent properties of a currently executing process, thread of control, processor, memory access instruction set for those processors that have more than one native instruction set, or RAM address space for those processors that an execute instructions out of two or more distinct regions of RAM. For example, in a UNIX operating system, the properties of a currently executing process include:

- processor interrupt priority level (IPL);
- whether the current thread holds certain locks;
- a list of locks held by the current thread;
- identifiers for the current process, parent process, user and group;
- ~~an identifier for the controlling tty;~~
- privileges and protections such as whether the effective user identifier and the real user identifier are the same;
- signal information, such as whether signals are pending or blocked, in other words, the equivalent of interrupt level in user space;
- scheduling information including thread priority and scheduling policy;
- current physical processor and processor set; and
- physical addresses associated with instructions that access memory.